

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for activating an ionizable product comprising:
means for generating a magnetic field; ~~and~~
means for applying plasma particles by corona discharge to the ionizable product placed on the means for generating the magnetic field; and
wherein the means for generating the magnetic field comprises permanent magnets and magnetically permeable plates between which the permanent magnets are inserted.
2. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 1 wherein the north pole of the means for generating the magnetic field is directed toward the means for applying plasma particles.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim [[3]]~~1~~ wherein the permanent magnets and the magnetically permeable plates are alternately layered.
5. (Currently amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim [[3]]~~1~~ wherein the means for generating the magnetic field has a plate on which the ionizable product is placed, and the plate is positioned a predetermined distance apart from an uppermost magnetically permeable plate.
6. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 4 wherein the means for generating the magnetic field has a plate on which the ionizable product is placed, and the plate is positioned a predetermined distance apart from an uppermost magnetically permeable plate.
7. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 1 wherein the means for generating the magnetic field is adapted to be freely movable forward and backward relative to the means for applying the plasma particles.